

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is response to Applicants' AMENDMENT filed on 12/25/2008.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jason O. Howard (Reg. No. 62,120) on 12/09/2008 at 10:50AM (816)-474-6550.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of designating items as available to share in a computer system between a sharer that makes items available and a sharee that views the items that were made available comprising:

executing on the sharer's computer a query comprising a scope and a criteria, wherein the scope and the criteria are submitted by the user of the sharer's computer, and wherein the scope defines at least a portion of a physical storage location;

creating on the sharer's computer a dynamic list with a plurality of referenced items based on results of said query, wherein the referenced items include electronic

files and electronic folders; wherein when an item that is on the dynamic list has a property change that is no longer meets the criteria of the query, the item is removed from the dynamic list, and wherein when the item that was not previously on the dynamic list has a property change that meets the criteria of the query, the item is added to the dynamic list;

defining the contents of one or more virtual folders on the sharer's computer based on the dynamic list, the one or more virtual folders configured to manipulate by an action of at least the sharer, said manipulation is at least one of dragging, copying and pasting,

making the contents of the one or more virtual folders available for sharing with the sharee, thereby making the results of said query available to the sharee: and

sharing at least a portion of the one or more virtual folders with the sharee, wherein the sharee is provided with access to the referenced items from the sharee's computer.

Claims 2-7:

Cancel claims 2-7

Claim 10:

10. (Currently Amended) A method for sharing items on a computer system comprising:

receiving permission to access a list on the sharer's computer with referenced items, wherein the referenced items are based on the results of a query that includes a scope and a criteria provided by the sharer executed on the sharer's computer, and the list defines the contents of one or more virtual folders on the sharer's computer, and wherein the scope defines at least a portion of a physical storage location, and wherein referenced items include electronic files and electronic folders;

in response to receiving the permission to access the list, accessing the list and the referenced items that have been determined by the sharer's computer to be shared in a sharing format, the sharing format being ~~one of a static list and~~ a dynamic list; wherein when an item that is on the dynamic list has a property change that is no longer meets the criteria of the query, the item is removed from the dynamic list, and wherein when an item that was not previously on the dynamic list has a property change that meets the criteria of the query, the item is added to the dynamic list; and

wherein the one or more virtual folders are configured to manipulate by an action of at least the sharer, said manipulation is at least one of dragging, copying, and pasting.

Claims 11-14:

Cancel claims 11-14

Claim 17:

17. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable storage media for enabling a computer-program segment to communicate with one or more other computer-program segments, said media comprising:

a set of computer-usable instructions that cause a request to provide access to a set of items to be communicated to one or more other computer-program segments capable of executing said request, wherein the set of items include results of a query having a scope and criteria provided by the sharer executed on the sharer's computer, and wherein the results are included one or more virtual folders on the sharer's computer, wherein the scope defines at least a portion of a physical storage location, and wherein the set of items include electronic files and electronic folders; and

wherein the one or more virtual folders are configured to manipulate by an action of at least the sharer, said manipulation is at least one of dragging, copying, and pasting, said referenced items are determined by the sharer's computer to share in a sharing format, the sharing format being ~~one of a static list format and a dynamic list format~~; wherein when an item that is on the dynamic list has a property change that is no longer meets the criteria of the query, the item is removed from the dynamic list, and wherein when an item that was not previously on the dynamic list has a property change that meets the criteria of the query, the item is added to the dynamic list.

Claims 18-21:

Cancel claims 18-21

Claim 24:

24. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating between a sharer of a dynamic list and a sharee comprising:

Receiving from the sharee, a call for accessing, on a computer of the sharer, items that are referenced on the dynamic list, wherein the list is based on results of a query with a scope and a criteria provided by the sharer executed on the sharer's computer referenced in one or more virtual folders on the sharer's computer, and stored on the sharer's computer, and determined by the sharer's computer to share in a sharing format, wherein the sharing format is ~~one of a static list format and a~~ the dynamic list format, wherein the scope defines at least a portion of a physical storage location, and wherein the sharer items include electronic files and electronic folders;

responsive to authorization received from the sharer, providing the sharee access to the items in the determined sharing format; wherein when an item that is on the dynamic list has a property change that is no longer meets the criteria of the query, the item is removed from the dynamic list, and wherein when an item that was not previously on the dynamic list has a property change that meets the criteria of the query, the item is added to the dynamic list; and

wherein the one or more virtual folders are configured to manipulate by an action of at least the sharer, said manipulation is at least one of dragging, copying, and pasting.

Claims 25-28:

Cancel claims 25-28

Claim 31:

31. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable storage media for enabling a sharer to share a set of items that are referenced on a dynamic list with a sharee comprising:

a set of computer-usable instructions that allow the sharee to access the items directly through the sharer's computer, wherein the items include electronic files and electronic folders,

wherein the set of items referenced on the list are based on results of a query with a scope and a criteria provided by the sharer executed on the sharer's computer, wherein the scope defines at least a portion of a physical storage location, and wherein the dynamic list comprises an order of the items referenced on the dynamic list, the dynamic list is referenced in one or more virtual folders on the sharer's computer, the list is determined by the sharer's computer to be shared to the sharee in a sharing format, the sharing format being ~~one of a static list format and a~~ the dynamic list format, wherein when an item that is on the dynamic list has a property

change such as that is no longer meets the criteria of the query, the item is removed from the dynamic list, and wherein when an item that was not previously on the dynamic list has a property change such that it meets the criteria of the query, the item is added to the dynamic list; and the one or more virtual folders are configured to be manipulated by an action of at least the sharer, said manipulation is at least one of dragging, copying, and pasting.

Claims 32-34:

Cancel claims 32-34

Claim 36:

36. (Currently Amended) A method for sharing items in a computer system between a sharer and a sharee comprising:

executing on the sharer's computer a query comprising a scope and a criteria provided by the sharer, wherein the scope defines at least a portion of a physical storage location;

creating on the sharer's computer one or more virtual folders with a plurality of referenced items based on results of said query, wherein the referenced items include electronic files and electronic folders;

determining a sharing format of the list to share to the sharee, wherein the sharing format is ~~one of a static list and~~ a dynamic list; wherein when an item that is on the dynamic list has a property change that is no longer meets the criteria

of the query, the item is removed from the dynamic list, and wherein when an item that was not previously on the dynamic list has a property change that meets the criteria of the query, the item is added to the dynamic list;

sharing the one or more virtual folders with a sharee such that the sharee is provided with access to the referenced items from the sharer's computer in the determined sharing format; and

wherein the one or more virtual folders are configured to manipulate by an action of at least the sharer, said manipulation is at least one of dragging, copying, and pasting.

Claim 37:

Cancel claim 37

Claim 38:

In the first line of claim 38, "The method of claim 37," is replaced with "The method of claim 36,"

Claim 39:

In the first line of claim 39, "The method of claim 37," is replaced with "The method of claim 36,"

Claims 40-42:

Cancel claims 40-42

3. Claims 2-7, 11-14, 18-21, 25-28, 32-34, 37 and 40-42 are cancelled.
4. Claims 1, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, 29-31, 35-36, 38-39 and 43-55 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. The present application has been thoroughly reviewed. Upon searching a variety of databases, the examiner respectfully submits that claims 1, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, 29-31, 35-36, 38-39 and 43-55 are allowed in light of the applicants' argument and in light of the prior arts of made record.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Combination of HUANG et al. (Pub. No.: US 2003/0097361 A1, hereinafter HUANG) and PEARSON (Pub. No.: US 2003/0028610 A1) both fail to teach wherein when an item that is on the dynamic list has a property change such as that is no longer meets the criteria of the query, the item is removed from the dynamic list, and wherein when an item that was not previously on the dynamic list has a property change such that it meets the criteria of the query, the item is added to the dynamic list; and the contents of one or more virtual folders on the sharer's computer based on the dynamic list, the one or more virtual folders configured to be manipulated by an action of at least the sharer, said manipulation is at least one of dragging, copying and pasting.

7. These distinct features, in conjunction with all other limitations of the dependents and independent claims render claims 1, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, 29-31, 35-36, 38-39 and 43-55 them allowable.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANH LY whose telephone number is (571) 272-4039 or via E-Mail: ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV (Written Authorization being given by Applicant (MPEP 502.03 [R-2])) or fax to (571) 273-4039 (unofficial fax number direct to Examiner's office). The examiner can normally be reached on TUESDAY – THURSDAY from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (571) 272-4107.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). Any response to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, or faxed to:

Central Fax Center: (571) 273-8300

ANH LY /AL/
DEC 16th, 2008

/John Breene/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2162